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DRAFT REPORT

Addendum

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PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Programme 18. Economic and social development in Western Asia

1. At its 29th meeting, on 21 June 1996, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

Discussion

2. Several delegations expressed the view that due importance should be assigned to the questions of water, population and labour force migration and that subprogramme 18.2 should have a specific reference to population growth and its implications for social services and education. Some delegations also expressed the view that reference should be made to trade.

3. Other delegations stressed the need for coordination with all other institutions pursuing similar objectives in the region, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

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Conclusions and recommendations

4. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of programme 18 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, taking into account the results of the process of internal restructuring currently under way in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).